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CLASSIFICATION

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COUNTRY

Germany (Soviet Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Zerbst Airfield

25X1A

25X1A

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 3 May 1951

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 31 May 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 1

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

REFERENCE COPY

DO NOT CIRCULATE

1. On 3 May 1951, there were no indications of military occupation at Zerbst airfield. The five hangars were closed. Truck and air force officers and PW were repeatedly seen in Zerbst. An air force lieutenant arrived at 11:35 a.m. by an express train from the direction of Zwickau. He wore golden-bordered blue collar patches and cuffs with golden patches similar to those previously worn by the German Army.
2. It was observed from the southern edge of the field that plows towed by caterpillar tractors graded a strip adjacent to the southern edge of the taxiway. Light poles were erected along the northern edge of the taxiway. It was seen from the road fork southwest of the field that the grass cover north of the taxiway was intact and that grading work was being done on a strip south of the taxiway which was wider than the taxiway. Concreting had not started. The five wooden towers on the northern edge of the field remained unchanged. Gray broken stones, white sand, and yellow gravel were piled to the towers.
3. The AA gun emplacements which were located east of the point where the road from Pulpforde (N 52/E 08) joins the Zerbst-Wiesenburg (N 53/E 20) road were evacuated. A sentry was posted near the temporary building. *

25X1A

* Comment. The evacuation of the field by fighter units has been confirmed. The two fighter regiments were transferred to Koethen. It has not been determined whether the fighter division headquarters has also been transferred to Koethen, but this is believed probable. The field was probably evacuated because of the construction work under way on the landing field. It has not been clarified whether construction work is being done on the landing field or on the runway, but it is believed that the runway is being enlarged.

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No Change in Class. ☐☐ Declassified

Date: 21-7-78

25X1

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